

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 102569

67

ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY EB:ORF:OFP:FFD-RESERVICE:ML

APPROVED BY S - HENRY A. KISSINGER

NEA - SSOBER

NEA/EGY - HMATTHEWS

EB - TENDERS

S/S:JPMOFFAT

DESIRED DISTRIBUTION

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 102569

EXDIS

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: EAID, EAGR, ETRD

REF: CAIRO 04291

TO AMBASSADOR FROM SECRETARY

SUBJECT: FAHMY ON US WHEAT ASSISTANCE

1. WITH APPROVAL MINISTER-COUNSELOR EL-NAHAL, USDA ISSUED PURCHASE AUTHORIZATIONS FOR 200,000 TONS WHEAT AND 72,000 TONS WHEAT FLOUR (100,000 TONS WHEAT EQUIVALENT) APRIL 30. THEY ARE NOW PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE.

2. YOU ARE FULLY AWARE BACKGROUND TO STRONG USDA INTEREST INCLUDE SOME WHEAT FLOUR IN EGYPT PROGRAM. IT HAD HOPED FOR 100,000 TONS RATHER THAN 72,000. CANCELLATION OF WHEAT FLOUR PURCHASE AUTHORIZATION WOULD FURTHER COMPLICATE DELICATE DOMESTIC/CONGRESSIONAL PROBLEM. IT COULD ENDANGER
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PAGE 02 STATE 102569

FUTURE PL 480 LEVELS TO EGYPT.

3. YOU SHOULD TELL FAHMY THAT WHEAT FLOUR PURCHASE
AUTHORIZATION WAS ISSUED PRIOR RECEIPT REFTEL AND ON
UNDERSTANDING GOE APPROVED. WE DO NOT BELIEVE IT WISE TO
CANCEL THE WHEAT FLOUR PORTION BUT WOULD BE WILLING, IF
FAHMY DESIRES, TO ADD 50,000 TONS OF WHEAT TO EGYPT PROGRAM,
BRINGING TOTALS TO 550,000 TONS WHEAT AND 72,000 WHEAT FLOUR.
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